

Demographic Information from County Soil and Water Districts, Watershed Districts and Water Management Organizations

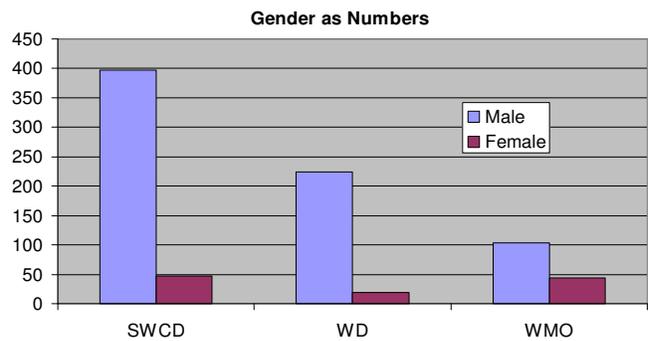
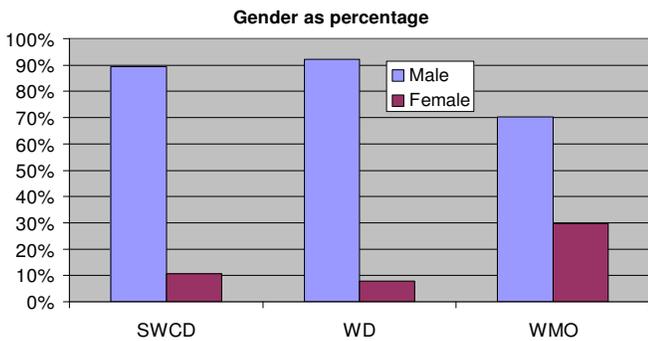
Background:

The Board of Water and Soil Resources was asked to obtain demographic information on SWCD's, Watershed Districts (WD) and Water Management Organizations (WMO). BWSR sent out the attached survey in September of 2007 and the results of this survey are reported below.

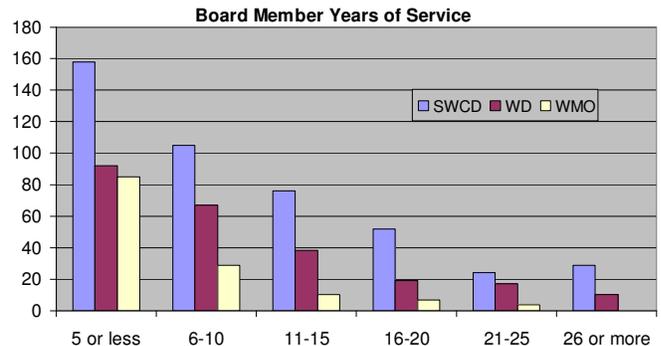
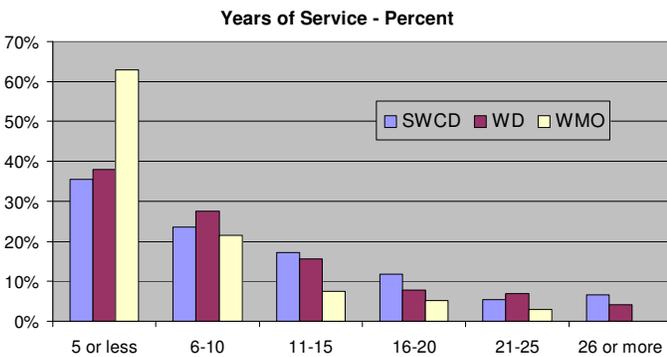
Number of Respondents:

We received responses from 444 SWCD, 243 WD and 135 WMO Board members. Responses were received from 93% of representative groups with 148 of 154 possible.

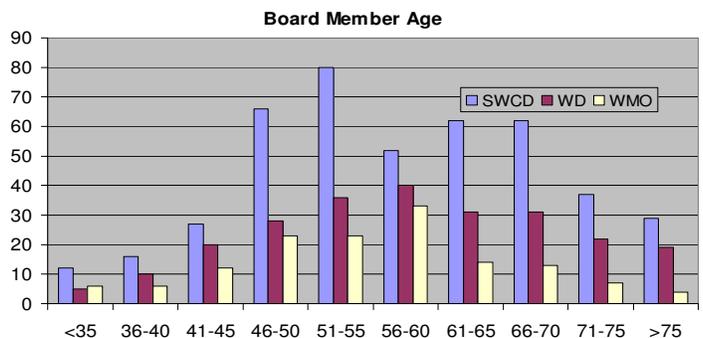
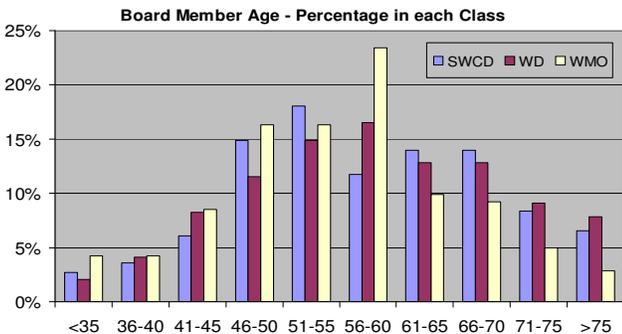
Results on Gender Demographics



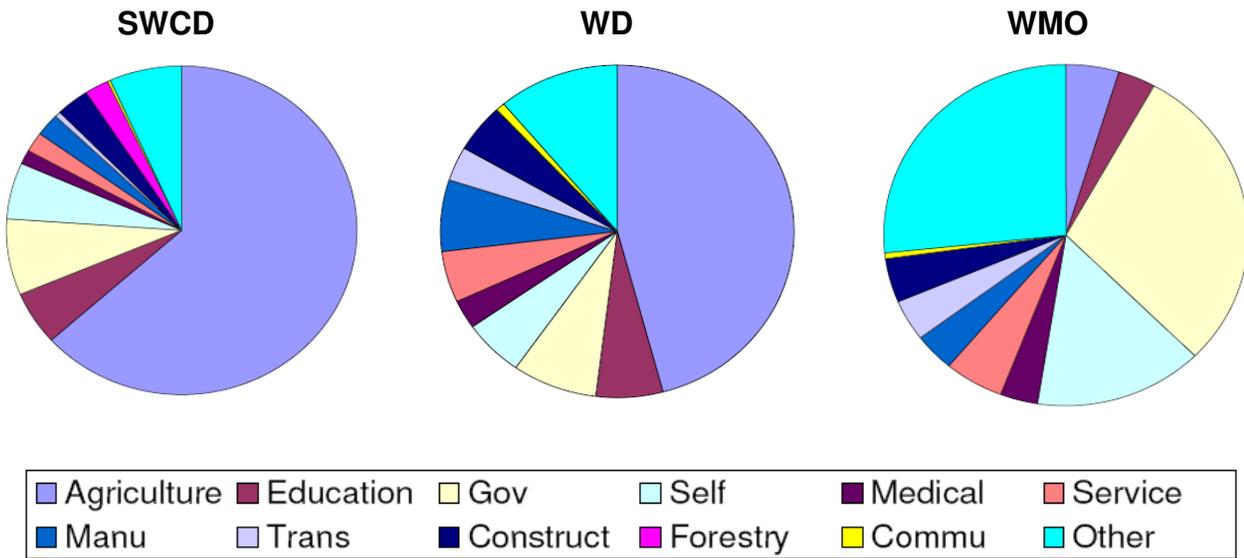
Results on Years of Service Demographics



Results on Age Demographics



Results on Occupation Demographics



Number of Contested Elections for Various County Wide Offices

	Commissioner		Sheriff		Auditor/Treas		Surveyor		Attorney		Recorder		SWCD		Coroner	
	Seats	Cntsd	Seats	Cntsd	Seats	Cntsd	Seats	Cntsd	Seats	Cntsd	Seats	Cntsd	Seats	Cntsd	Seats	Cntsd
Totals	205	135	80	36	102	20	9	1	80	15	66	10	177	18	10	0
Percent	66%		45%		20%		20%		19%		16%		11%		0	

Observations and Suggestions:

- Survey revealed useful information and could be conducted every five years to determine trends.
- Representation of female board members is greatest in the metro area with 30% of all board members.
- 45% of all board members have 5 years or less of experience and 69% have 10 years or less experience on the board.
- As nearly half of all board members have less than 5 years of experience, board training may be a significant need.
- Occupations seem to reflect the communities they serve with more agricultural representation on SWCD and WD boards and a wider variety of occupations in the metro area.
- Since the "Other" category represented 27% of respondents in the metro area, this category may need to be expanded, using census or legislative categories may be an option.